THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) There has been ups and downs in the foreign tourists visiting Ladakh over years. Figures of tourist arrivals in Ladakh for the last ten years are as follows:—

Year	Foreign Tourists
1990	6342
1991	8014
1992	13580
1993	12401
1994	15369
1995	12391
1996	13036
1997	12810
1998	15238
1999	9669

According to information available from Indian Airlines, in addition to the scheduled services to Leh, additional services between Delhi and Leh are operated every year during June-September and schedule of additional service is announced in early March itself. They have, however, indicated that seat factors for last three years on Delhi/Leh/Delhi services during April-September has varied between 50—60% only.

(b) The Ministry of Civil Aviation had been requested to introduce more flights to Leh.

Maintenance of tourist places in Assam

585. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount spent by Government for development and maintenance of all the tourist places in the State of Assam during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of amount to be spent by Government for

development and maintenance of all the tourist places in the State during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of amount actually utilised so far on the development of tourist places in the State?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) During Eighth Five Year Plan, Central financial assistance of Rs. 439.84 lakhs was sanctioned to Assam for tourism development of the State.

(b) and (c) The development of tourism is mainly undertaken by the State Governments. However, to supplement their efforts, Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to them for the projects/schemes prioritised every year in consultation with them. Sanctioned projects/schemes are implemented by the respective State Governments. During the first two years of Ninth Plan, an amount of Rs. 564.15 lakhs has been spent by the State Government for development of tourism.

Impact of IA Hijack on Tourist Arrival

†586. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an adverse effect on the inflow of foreign tourists to India due to hijacking of Indian aircraft by Pakistan terrorists from Nepal; if so, to what extent; and

(b) the action being taken for creating a sense of security among tourists after this incident?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) The tourist inflow in December 1999 and January 2000 in the wake of the hijacking is indicated in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(b) According to information from the Ministry of Civil Aviation, some of the actions taken are:

(i) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel in place of the State Police for security duties.

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†*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.*